Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 13617 131801Z

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: PLO AT UNITED NATIONS

- 1. SUMMARY. ARAFAT'S APPEARANCE BEFORE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TODAY BANNERED EXTENSIVELY IN ALL BEIRUT PAPERS EXCEPT PRO-IRAQI ONES, WHICH DOWNPLAY NEWS. MOST PAPERS UNDERLINE FACT THAT "PALESTINE SPEAKS TODAY AT UNITED NATIONS," AND SEVERAL PAPERS CARRY DESCRIPTIONS BY THEIR OWN CORRESPONDENTS OF ATMOSPHERE IN NEW YORK AND TIGHT SECURITY MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY U.S. AUTHORITIES TO PROTECT MEMBERS OF PLO DELEGATION. EDITORIALS STRESS HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF OCCASION. END SUMMARY.
- 2. UNDER HEADLINE "PALESTINE HAS THE FLOOR," LEADING INDEPENDENT AN-NAHAR WRITES: "AS AMERICA GRADUALLY MAKES CONTACT WITH PLO, WORLD PAUSES BRIEFLY TODAY TO HEAR VOICE OF PALESTINE. IT IS VOICE WHICH WORLD HAS SUPPRESSED FOR MORE THAN QUARTER-CENTRURY. VOICE OF PALESTINE IS NO LONGER MRERLY VOCIE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY. IT HAS BECOME VOICE OF EXISTING REALITY AND OF PRESENT SITUATION, WHICH IS DEVELOPING ON BOTH PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI SIDES, WHERE EVERYTHING APPEARS TO BE CHANGING AND INTER-REACTING AS IF TO PRESAGE NEW BIRTH, BOTH PALESTINIAN AND ISRAELI. PALESTINIAN VOICE RAISED TODAY AT U.N. WILL LEVEL ITS CHARGES AFTER MORE THAN QUARTER-CENTURY AT THOSE VOICES WHICH HAVE COMPETED TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL AS IF ALL ELSE HAD COME TO AN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BEIRUT 13617 131801Z

END. THOSE VOICES WHICH RECOGNIZED ISRAEL AT ITS CREATION

AND DURING FOLLOWING QUARTER-CENTURY WILL FEEL TODAY HOW UNREAL THAT RECOGNITION WAS AND HOW MUCH ISRAEL NEEDS RECOGNITION OF THAT UNRECOGNIZED VOICE, THE PALESTINIAN VOICE."

- 3. PRO-SAUDI AL-HAYAT WRITES: "ARAB DELEGATES WILL DECLARE BEFORE UNGA THAT THOSE TO BE DESCRIBED AS REFUGEES ARE NOT PALESTINIANS, WHO ARE OWNERS OF LAND, BUT ISRAELIS, WHOM WHOLE WORLD KNOWS BECAME REFUGEES AFTER NAZISM EXPELLED THEM FROM GERMAN TERRITORY AND CHASED THEM THROUGH OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES. THOSE REFUGEES, WHO WERE WANDERING THROUGH EVERY LAND AND UNDER EVERY SKY, COULD NOT SUDDENLY BECOME OWNERS OF LAND THAT IS NOT THEIRS. HOW COULD ORIGINAL OWNERS OF LAND BECOME DISPLACED INSTEAD OF JEWS...? IF PRICE OF LAND HAS TO BE PAID TO JEWS BY CERTAIN PARTIES AS INDEMNITY FOR HITLER'S AGGRESSION, WHY IS NOT GERMANY ITSELF ASKED TO PAY THIS PRICE?"
- 4. PRO-LIBYAN AS-SAFIR WRITES: "PALESTINIAN FIGHTERS WILL CONTINUE IN U.N. ARENA WHAT THEY STARTED TEN YEARS AGO AS THEY BEGAN LONG JOURNEY TO REASSERT PALESTINIAN PERSONALITY AND RESTORE USURPED RIGHTS WHICH WERE ABOUT TO BE FORGOTTEN.... ONLY IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PALESTINIANS BE ABLE TO BRING U.N. TO RECOGNIZE SOME OF RIGHTS IT HAD RECOGNIZED IN EARLIER YEARS AND THEN FORGOTTEN BECAUSE OF ZIONIST IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACY AS WELL AS ARAB INDIFFERENCE."
- 5. PRO-SOVIET ASH-SHA'B WRITES: "DEEP CONCERN WHICH HAS SWEPT WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK AS RESULT OF PALESTINIAN DELEGATION'S ENTRY INTO U.S., WHICH CALLS ITSELF LEADER OF FREE WORLD, HAS EXPOSED SERVITUDE AND COMPLETE SUBMISSION OF THIS STATE TO DEVIL OF ZIONISM, PARTICULARLY AS THIS CONCERN HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY UGLY AGGRESSION AGAINST LEBANON PLANNED BY ISRAEL TO PUNISH IT FOR CARRYING BANNER OF ARABISM AND MESSAGE OF PALESTINE AND JUSTICE.... ISRAEL, WHICH WAS CREATED BY EVIL FORCES AND ABSENCE OF HUMAN CONSCIENCE IN WORLD, AS WELL AS BY DIVISION OF ARAB RANKS, IS NOW POSING SERIOUS THREAT TO ITS CREATORS....U.S. IS TODAY PAYING PRICE OF ITS DISREGARD OF HUMAN VALUES, INTERNATIONAL PRECEPTS, AND PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE.... AFTER QUARTER-CENTURY, IT HAS FOUND ITSELF ISOLATED FROM UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 BEIRUT 13617 131801Z

WHOLE WORLD, WITH NONE BUT ISRAEL AT ITS SIDE." CURTISS

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